302 W. Washington Street IGCS, Room E-114 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Cpl. Travis Thickstun Telephone 317-232-2469 tthickstun@atc.in.gov www.in.gov/isep

## **For Immediate Release**

## **Excise Officers Arrest 18 at IMS Events**

**INDIANAPOLIS (July 27)** – Indiana State Excise Police officers working at the races and concerts at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway last night arrested 18 people on 20 charges.

Most of those arrested were charged with alcohol or drug-related offenses.

Excise officers patrolled inside the Indianapolis Motor Speedway during NASCAR Nationwide race events and at the Brickfest Music Festival concerts.

The following is a list of some of the charges this weekend:

- 16 Illegal Possession or Consumption of Alcohol
- 1 Possession of Heroin
- 1 Possession of a Controlled Substance
- 1 Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor
- 1 Possession of False Identification

Robert Penrod, 38, of Indianapolis, was jailed on preliminary charges of possession of heroin and possession of a controlled substance (prescription medications). A plainclothes excise officer saw Penrod using a rolled up dollar bill to snort heroin in the passenger seat of a truck.

As the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the primary mission of the Indiana State Excise Police is to promote public safety by enforcing Indiana's Alcoholic Beverage Code. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related laws.

All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.